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March 2, 2011

TO: Each Health Deputy

FROM: Jonathan E. Fielding, M.D., M.P.H. *J. Fielding*
Director and Health Officer

SUBJECT: **INTEGRATION OF HIV AND STD PROGRAMS**

This is to inform you that pending approval from the Chief Executive Office, the Office of AIDS Programs and Policy, the Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) Program and the HIV Epidemiology Program will be organizationally re-aligned under the leadership of Mario J. Perez. The new structure will be called the Division of HIV and STD Programs.

Given the strong nexus between HIV and STDs infection, aligning these three vital programs will allow the Department of Public Health to more effectively address the prevention, care, and treatment needs of those living with or at-risk for HIV. This organizational shift will better enable collaboration and integration of the full range of activities to improve control and prevention of HIV and other STDs. The decision further reflects a consistency with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) promotion of program collaboration and service integration related to the HIV and STD programming in local public health departments.

It is expected that the integration will be effected in stages throughout this year. During this transition period, program activities and services will experience no disruption. The Department is committed to educating community stakeholders, including local planning bodies, throughout this process.

If you have additional questions or would like more information, please contact Mario J. Perez at 213/351-8001.

JEF:mh

c: Sheila Shima
Richard Mason
Jonathan E. Freedman